

All the News  
about former  
Members that's  
Fit to Print.

# The Capitol Post

## House and Senate Chamber Update

*Semper Fidelis*

SERVING OUR LEGISLATIVE COMMUNITY SINCE 2020

### Texas Edition

Remember to  
“fall back” at 2  
a.m. on Sunday  
November 6,  
but as we age  
don’t actually  
do it – fall back.

No. 66

Friday, October 14, 2022 Austin, Texas

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please join me in welcoming these new members to our group.



Rep. Jerry Clark  
1978 -1989 – Jasper County



Tommy Merrit  
1997 – 2011 – Gregg County





<https://lrl.texas.gov/legeLeaders/members/lrlhome.cfm>

## MEMBERS RECOVERING

**Sen. Buster Brown** – tested positive for COVID three weeks ago but recovered quickly and he’s “100% COVID free.”

**Rep. Patricia Gray** – “recovering well” after some cardiac issues.

**Sen. Leticia Van de Putte** – here’s a link to a story. She’s doing well.

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=pfbid02b8ERVZQGqiz8TTqX92bfoH41y2Qg6ddZoy1KSPtPrKW sZ6A8vxft4YSXjTFdu76ql&id=100042242544839&sfnsn=mo](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid02b8ERVZQGqiz8TTqX92bfoH41y2Qg6ddZoy1KSPtPrKW sZ6A8vxft4YSXjTFdu76ql&id=100042242544839&sfnsn=mo)

## IN MEMORIAM



Abbie Leavitt Davis

1-10-1943 – 10-10- 2022

Funeral Oct. 22, 2022, at 10:30 AM, St. Francis

Anglican Church, 3838 Walnut Hill Lane, Dallas Texas.

<https://www.donnellyscolonial.com/obituary/abbie-davis>

Wife of Rep. Bob Davis



Rep. Randall Riley

12-7-1954 – 10-10-2022

Memorial service Saturday, Oct. 15 at 3 p.m.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/austin-tx/randall-riley-10966111>



Jocelyn Levi Straus

1931 - 2022

Jocelyn Levi Straus Obituary - Visitation & Funeral Information

<https://www.porterloring.com/obituaries/Jocelyn-Levi-Straus?obId=26093543#/obituaryInfo>

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sanantonio/name/jocelyn-straus-obituary?id=36755955>

## **CHANCELLOR KENT HANCE**



### [The Best Storyteller In Texas Podcast](#)

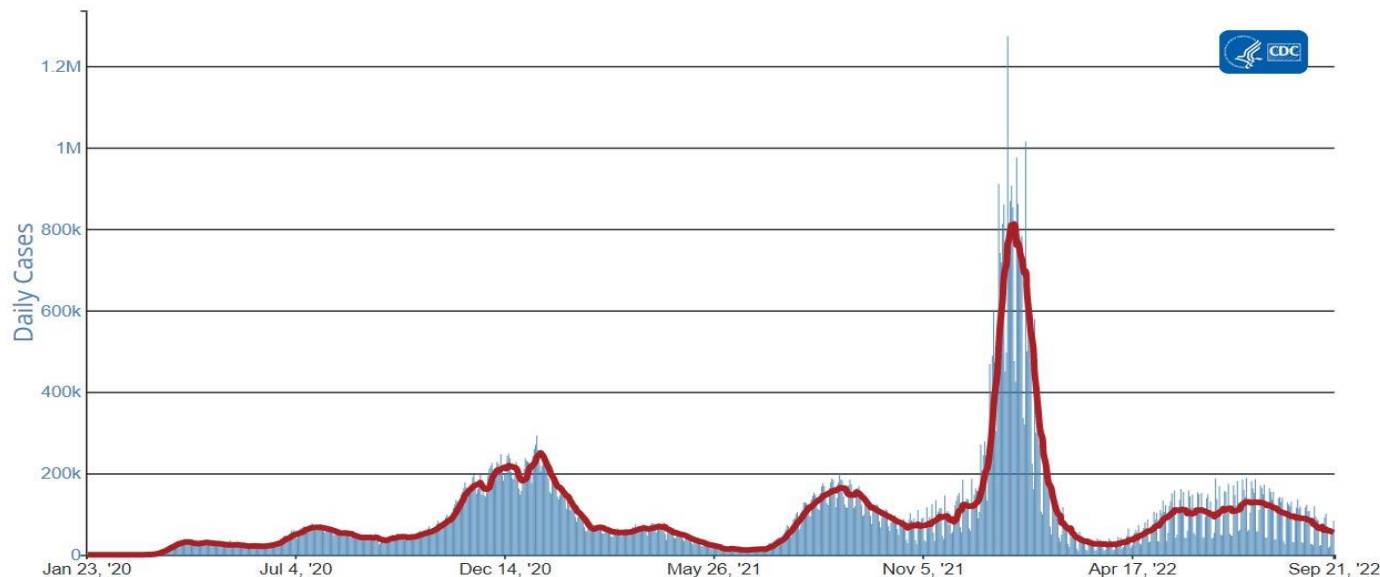
1 day ago

Why Mack Brown Wore Red and Black

Play • 15 minIn this episode: Why the great Mack Brown once wore red and black when he visited Texas Tech and a “saying of the day” that applies to everyone in business. Kent shares some colorful stories about legendary coaches, including words they’ve uttered that were unsuitable for print. The best Jack Copeland story yet: “Would you like to meet Joe Willie?” Plus, a great sports trivia question to have in your hip pocket, how the minnow overtakes the whale, and a shrewd way to get the best price for a car.



# Coronavirus cases in the U.S. since the start of the pandemic



These are US cases reported since the start of the pandemic over a 7 day average  
Highlights:

Sunday March 1st 2020	30
July 17, 2020.	65, 446
Nov. 14, 2020.	149,845
Jan. 10, 2021.	246,276
Fri. Apr. 9, 2021	67, 837
June 21, 2021.	11,254
Sept. 7, 2021.	152,631
Jan. 15 2022.	805,974
Apr. 6, 2022.	28,793
July 18, 2022.	128, 773
Fri. Oct. 7, 2022	35, 167 *****



**Austin Bergstrom International Airport** in March of 2020 when the nation began the lockdown. As you can see, the airport is deserted. No baggage, no customers, flights cancelled. Hwy 71 near our home was totally empty of cars.

We began hearing about Coronavirus in the very early part of 2020. However, as we now know, the virus had already migrated to the U.S. probably in the fall of 2019.

We had a Lake Travis Fire Rescue Citizen’s Committee luncheon in March of 2020 and while covid was in the news no one was sure what was going on. We all sat together at circular tables and the Battalion chief who was speaking was skeptical as were several of the people at our table.

As of today there have been 619 million cases world-wide with 6.55 million deaths. In the United States there have been 96.2 million cases (reported) and 1.06 million deaths.

## Dedication of the new Korean War Memorial in Galveston, September 16, 2022

Update on the recent Memorial dedication and ribbon-cutting honoring the 51 Galveston County boys who died in the Korean War, 1950 -1953: Our Marine Corps League veterans detachment, #668 worked three years to bring this about. Former Rep. Doug McLeod is proud to have led this effort. The top photo is Doug (smiling on left) two of his five daughters, and wife, Joan. Below that is the actual ribbon cutting on September 16<sup>th</sup> – he on the left (side view) along with the South Korean Consul General who was there to speak at the ceremony. On the right, you will recognize Rep. Mayes Middleton and former Land Commissioner/State Senator Jerry Patterson – the other distinguished speakers that day.





# Naming Commission completes mission with final report to Congress

On Thursday, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, a Georgia native who, like Eisenhower, was an Army general, issued [a memo](#) to Pentagon leaders fully concurring with the commission's recommendations and ordering their implementation pending a 90-day waiting period required by Congress. Austin is the first African American to attain the military's top civilian post

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 19, 2022

## **Naming Commission completes mission with final report to Congress**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The commission tasked to provide recommendations for the disposition of Department of Defense assets that commemorate the Confederate States of America submitted the last part of its three-part final report to Congress today, signaling the completion of its mission.

Entitled "[Final Report to Congress, Part III: Remaining Department of Defense Assets](#)," the 56-page report includes all the [recommendations announced by the commission Sept. 13](#), plus:

- a new recommendation for the Secretary of Defense to encourage the Department of the Air Force to share with the Department of the Army base-naming lessons it learned from transitioning Air Force bases to the Space Force;
- a detailed inventory list of Defense Department assets not previously identified in other parts of the report; and
- details from the commission's research on the naming of Fort Belvoir, which in Part I the commission recommended the Department of Defense review for potential renaming.

The commission submitted to Congress the [first part of its report](#) on Aug. 8, which detailed new name recommendations for nine Army base names, and the [second part of its report](#) on Aug. 29, addressing Confederacy-affiliated assets at the U.S. Military Academy and U.S. Naval Academy.

All three parts of the report are accessible at [www.thenamingcommission.gov/report](http://www.thenamingcommission.gov/report).

According to the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, which mandated its formation, the commission – comprised of eight volunteers selected by the Secretary of Defense and Congress – was required to submit its final report to Congress by Oct. 1 with recommendations to remove, rename or modify "names, symbols, displays, monuments and paraphernalia" within the Department of Defense that commemorate the Confederacy.

Retired Army Brig. Gen. Ty Seidule, the vice chair of the Naming Commission, said the commission was provided more than \$2 million to complete its nearly two-year task, adding: "We finished on time, spending only a quarter of the money authorized by Congress and returning \$1.7 million dollars to the taxpayers."

## **Ft. Hood to be renamed Ft. Cavazos**

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/fort-hood-renamed-richard-cavazos-four-star-hispanic-general-rcna51302>

# THE DROUGHT

"Lubbock Avalanche-Journal - October 3, 2022  
'We have zero dryland cotton in Lubbock County': Production worse than expected

All along the High Plains and West Texas, cotton farmers are facing the same scenario: Thirsty, scorched crops that are dwindling by the day. Across the region, no community will come out unscathed from the detriment caused by the unwavering drought conditions and extended periods of heatwaves that loomed over the area earlier this year. "We have zero dryland cotton in Lubbock County right now," Brant Baugh, a county extension agent for agriculture and natural resources with Texas A&M Agrilife Extension, told Lubbock County Commissioners during the Sept. 26 meeting. "We're looking at a pretty catastrophic loss in dollars from the agriculture community."

In mid-August, local experts cited numbers between 65 to 70% abandonment at the time. Now less than two months later, Baugh estimates the level of loss and abandonment at around 70 to 75%, he told the county commissioners. "(The cotton's) gone. It's going to be catastrophic," Baugh reiterated. The struggle doesn't end at the border of Lubbock County, and the same dreadful year reflects on farmers in neighboring communities. "This year was about as bad as 2011, possibly worse," said Bryan Baker, a farmer in Sudan. "We tried to save our crop in (2011). It was tough, but it was also a learning experience. This year, we were less hesitant to give it up." Baker, who is a fourth-generation farmer, said this was the worst farming year he's seen since he began in 1996, shortly after graduating from Texas Tech. Between his irrigated land and dryland, he planted about 3,000 acres this year but expects to harvest only about one-tenth of that."

<http://www.quorumreport.com/Newsclips/Newsclips.cfm?CFID=10984756&CFTOKEN=8f1d96b23a3916bc-5FCC0806-F908-35C1-E8273F4E04DC49AA#:~:text=Lubbock%20Avalanche%2DJournal,We%20tried%20to>

# THE FLOOD



PICA 04147, Austin History Center, Austin Public Library

<https://images.app.goo.gl/yEJ8fCujrb8zpjP16>

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO BRENDA AND JIM RUDD**

These kiddos and Roswell New Mexico high school sweethearts were married in 1962 – sixty years ago! And the rest, as they say, is history. Guns up! -but let's cut out throwing the tacos on the field.



## **SEN. JEFF WENTWORTH AND HIS BULLOCK SHORT STORIES**

By Jeff Wentworth

Thomas R. Phillips served as Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court for nearly 17 years, resigning in 2004 to return to private law practice and to teach.

On Phillips' retirement, Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst hosted a private dinner party in the judge's honor in the Lieutenant Governor's Reception Room in the State Capitol.

Invited to attend were current and former members of the Senate Committee on Jurisprudence which had oversight of the judicial branch of Texas state government. Among those present were Senator Chris Harris, Senator Royce West, Senator Robert Duncan and me – in addition to the lieutenant governor and our honoree.



As often occurs when senior senators gather socially, we got around to sharing “Bullock stories.” One by one we went around the room recounting personal experiences we each had had with the fabled political leader. When it got to the chief justice, we figured he didn't have a Bullock story, since he had never served in the Texas Legislature.

But he assured us that he did have a Bullock story.

He said that one day as he was sitting in his office at the Supreme Court, his desk telephone rang. When he answered it, the voice on the other end of the phone said, “Tom, this is Bullock. You know that plot you selected for yourself in the Texas State Cemetery?” “Yes, sir, I do,” Phillips responded. “Well, I've taken it,” Bullock replied. And then he hung up.

**THE MAYORS RACE, Austin, that is...**

AS YOU KNOW, SEN. WATSON IS RUNNING TO RETURN TO HIS PREVIOUS ROLE AS MAYOR OF AUSTIN.

<https://www.austinchronicle.com/news/2022-10-14/the-mayors-race-offers-clear-choices-on-how-austin-should-grow/>

**I DON'T KNOW IF YOU SHOULD RAKE YOUR LEAVES OR NOT,  
BUT HERE'S A SONG TO START YOUR WEEKEND**

**AUTUMN LEAVES**

BY Nat King Cole

<https://youtu.be/i3aLQOC1sdE>

Attachments area  
Preview YouTube video Nat King Cole - "Autumn Leaves"

